



## *Appropriations Committee*

March 25, 2022

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members representing 168 towns and cities.

### **S.B. 452, An Act Concerning the Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund.**

#### **CCM Supports SB 452.**

SB 452 would significantly increase the amount of funding distributed under the Mashantucket Pequot- Mohegan fund from \$51 million to \$146 million. Increasing funding for this grant will provide needed non-property tax revenue to all municipalities and reduce some of the pressure on the regressive local property tax.

The Mashantucket Pequot- Mohegan fund which began in 1994 has provided needed revenue to towns and cities, especially those municipalities most directly impacted by the casinos that are operating within the Tribal Nations. Over the years, the funding awarded to towns and cities has been inconsistent and the state has often swept money from the fund to offset budget deficits. The current amount appropriated to towns and cities is the lowest amount since the fund was created in 1994 when \$88 million was allocated to local municipalities.

Additionally, CCM supports the language in Section 1(c) which would increase the predictability of this funding by requiring prohibiting the money within the fund from swept except with a declaration of an emergency by the Governor and a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly.

SB 452 would restore the Mashantucket Pequot- Mohegan fund to its original intent of providing financial assistance to towns and cities and offering needed revenue diversification. **CCM urges the Committee to Support SB 452.**

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If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Advocacy Manager of CCM at [rcollins@ccm-ct.org](mailto:rcollins@ccm-ct.org) or (860) 707-6446.